

Bucks County

# PANORAMA

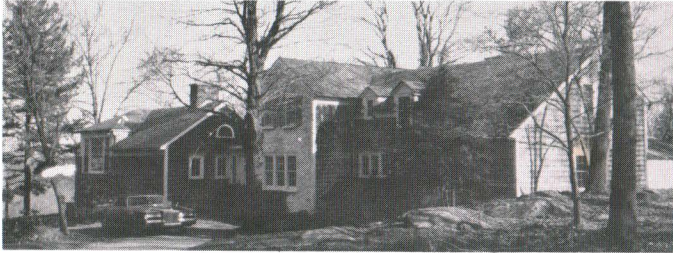
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SALUTE TO  
NEWTOWN



# PANORAMA REAL ESTATE GUIDE



## ELIZABETH JAMES SAYS:

Seclusion is the key word for this charming 9½ acre estate. Yet it is within 5 minutes of New Hope. There is an 18th century stone and frame house embraced by rock formations and natural wooded setting. This setting is enhanced by beautiful plantings, including an exquisite Japanese garden. There are multi-level terraces from which to enjoy the panoramic view of Jericho Mountain and the large filtered pool. The house itself has a large living room with cathedral ceiling and fireplace, formal dining room, modern kitchen with pantry, a smaller sitting room with fireplace, powder room & bedroom and bath on the first floor. There is a master bedroom with fireplace, three other bedrooms and two baths on the second floor. Among the other buildings are a guest apartment over a three car garage. An exciting property. Offered at \$190,000.00.

## ELIZABETH JAMES COUNTRY REAL ESTATE

Elizabeth James Professional Building  
794-7403 Route 202 and Street Road Lahaska, Pa.



## PRESERVED

Every charming feature of this old Colonial home of pointed stone has been restored with impeccable taste and infinite care. On six rolling acres amid flowering gardens, terraced lawns, tall shade trees and many unusual plantings. The interior of the house includes entrance hall with open stair, large living room with fireplace and open beam ceiling, dining room, panelled den, kitchen and breakfast area. Upstairs are master bedroom with fireplace and bath, two other bedrooms and a hall bath. Two more bedrooms above. The basement has a powder room plus a handsomely panelled recreation room with bar and flagstone floor, fireplace and open beam ceiling. Heated three car garage, with a beautiful three room guest apartment above. On the grounds are swimming pool, bath house, horse barn and several other outbuildings. This magnificent property is available now for \$172,000.

## J. CARROLL MOLLOY REALTOR

30 South Main Street Doylestown, Pa. 348-3558  
OPEN SUNDAY 12-4



Home and income on the Delaware River. Beautiful stone and frame dwelling with many outstanding features. 2 story owner's residence: large living room with pointed stone wall fireplace, cathedral ceiling & balcony on 3 sides, kitchen & dining area, 3 bedrooms with private balcony, 3 full baths, recreation room & 3 car garage with room above for apartment. Income units presently rented are the doctor's suite with 5 rooms & bath, and the 3 bedroom apartment. A boat house opening onto the river, the view from the balconies & terraces overlooking the river, and the beautiful landscaping make this a choice property. \$179,500.



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Beautiful custom built contemporary in scenic Bucks County. House situated at high point of 1.47 acres of beautifully landscaped property insuring complete privacy from surrounding properties. House unique with 18" stone walls and cathedral ceiling the entire length of the house. Sunken living room with raised hearth fireplace and pegged hardwood floors, dining room, large modern kitchen with dining area, den or 3rd bedroom, enclosed porch with flagstone floor, 2 airy bedrooms and two full tiled baths. Dual heating-cooling system for year-round comfort. Pointed stone wall in partial basement is the beginning of a beautiful recreation room. Remote control electric garage doors open a two car and storage-area garage. Wall-to-wall carpet throughout the house is just one of the many extras included in the price of \$79,500.

*Robert E. Porter*  
REAL ESTATE, INC.

72 E. State Street Doylestown, Pa. 348-9066



# Bucks County PANORAMA

— The Magazine of Bucks County —

ESTABLISHED 1959

Volume XIV      November, 1972      Number 11

**Editor:** Sheila Martin

**Associate Editor:** Alice Miller

**Historical Editor:** H. Winthrop Blackburn

**Art Director:** Carla Coutts

**Advertising:** Joanne Rohr, Elizabeth Goehring,  
June Stefanelli

**Circulation:** Doris Killough

**Contributing Editors:** A. Russell Thomas, Sheila L.  
M. Broderick, Mary Price Lee, Dorothy A. McFerran

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**COVER STORY:** The Tavern Room of The Court Inn  
in Newtown, Pa.

## CALENDAR of EVENTS

Courtesy of the Bucks County Historical-Tourist Commission

### NOVEMBER, 1972

- 4 WASHINGTON CROSSING — Children's Nature Walk, 10 to 12 Noon. Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve Headquarters Building.
- 4 NEWTOWN — Bucks County Community College Cultural Affairs Committee presents Saturday night Film Series — "Helstrom Chronicle", 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. in the Auditorium of the Library. BCCC and Subscription Ticket Holders have priority in seating — no charge.
- 5 WASHINGTON CROSSING — Adult Nature Hike, 2 to 3 p.m. Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve Headquarters Building.
- 5 WRIGHTSTOWN — Bucks County Folksong Society will present an evening of Folk Music at the Wrightstown Friends Meeting House Recreation Room, Route 413 at 7 p.m. Free. (If you play an instrument, bring it along.)
- 10 NEWTOWN — Bucks County Community College — a David Sokoloff/Jeanne Phillips duo-piano concert to benefit Council Rock Youth and Community Center, will be held at the Bucks County Community College. This performance, by these well known concert pianists and college instructors, will be a Pops Concert for your listening pleasure. Tickets available at the Center, North State Street, Newtown at \$2.50 each, or call 968-2922 for further information.
- 16 FEASTERVILLE — Tri-County Band will present an evening concert in the Bucks County Mall, Free. Time to be announced.
- 16,17,18 BUCKINGHAM — Bucks County Guild of Craftsmen's Fall Fair. Tyro Grange Hall, Rt. 413 and US 202. 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Original handcrafts and demonstrations. Admission free.
- 17 NEWTOWN — Northampton Township Anniversary Banquet and Historic Slide Show. 6:30 p.m. Reservations are necessary for the Banquet call Mrs. France 357-2962. Slide show will be in auditorium and will follow the banquet. Evening will honor residents of the Township 65 years old or older living in the Township over 50 years. Council Rock High School, Swamp Road.

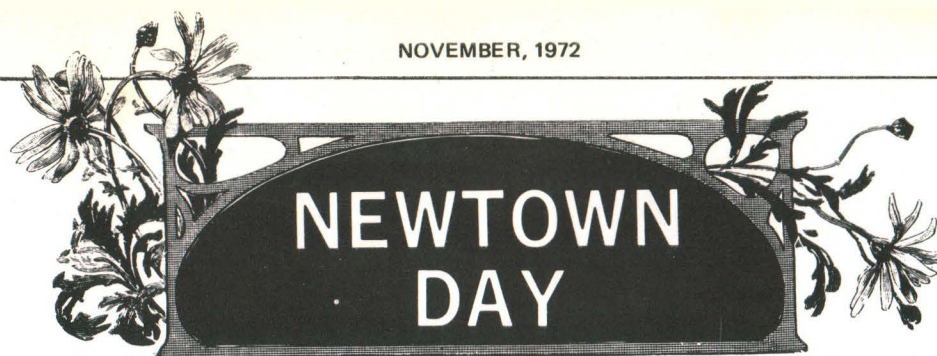
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*The Tavern room of the Court Inn*





The Newtown Historic Association Inc. is pleased to announce their Tenth Christmas Open House Tour on Saturday, December 2nd., 1972, from 12 noon till 8 P.M.

At 7 P.M. on Friday, December 1st., Carolers in Colonial dress will gather at the Presbyterian Old Church on Sycamore St. Following the Candlelight Service the marchers will parade into Newtown.



#### **COURT INN (1733)**

**WE WILL OPEN AT 12 NOON SO THAT GUESTS CAN VISIT THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE NEWTOWN HISTORIC ASSOCIATION.**

The Inn was erected by Joseph Thornton as a hotel and popular gathering place during Court sessions when Newtown was the County Seat. The inn has been restored to its original appearance and furnished in early colonial style. It houses a growing collection of historical items from the Newtown area.

#### **STONEHURST – 1833**

**Mr. & Mrs. Bernard Glaser  
Penn St. and Congress  
Newtown, Pa.**

An original Hicks family house, Stonehurst is a handsome townhouse of many large rooms. The visitor is ushered into a wide entrance hall with a graceful mahogany stair rail leading to the upper floors. A marble mantle from an old Philadelphia house adorns one of the downstairs fire places, and there are several more fireplaces throughout the house.

The kitchen was enlarged in 1900 but the rest of the house has been left in its original state. Oil lamps, fine old furniture and unusually high ceilings add interest to a very beautiful house.

#### **MILNOR HOUSE 1760**

**Dr. & Mrs. Raymond V. Hennessy  
127 Sycamore Street  
Newtown, Pa.**

The Hennessys have restored their creek-side house with feeling for its relation to the area. A pre-restoration photograph of the house, items of historical significance, plus collections of the Hennessys lead the visitor from room to room.

It is a high house with a winding stair leading up from the original kitchen. The flooring in this room is laid with bricks from Old Court St.

There is a large 1776 map of Newtown, showing routes of Washington's men at the Crossing, an unusual collection of dentist's mugs and a set of Newtown china.

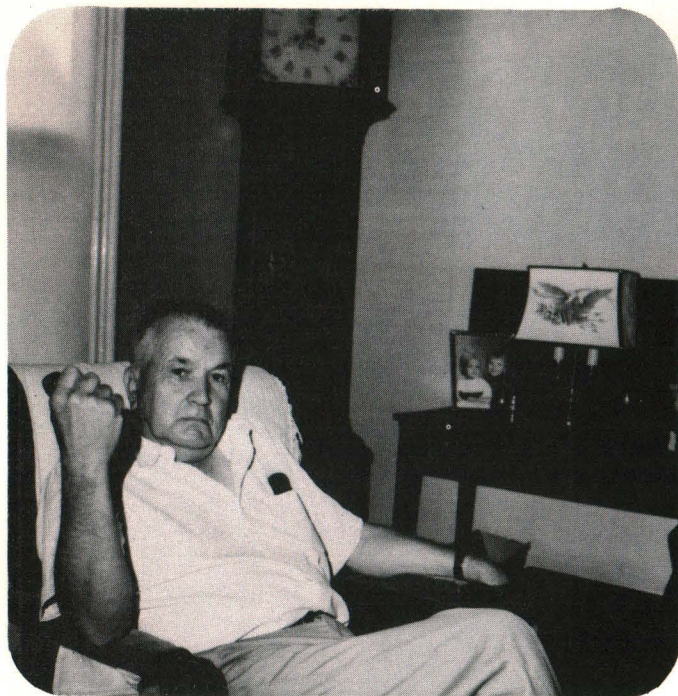
Other features include family samplers, Courier and Ives prints and fine antiques. An illuminated Book Of The Hours will be on display.

#### **THE HISTORIC PRESBYTERIAN OLD CHURCH**

The Historic Presbyterian Old Church was erected in 1769 although Presbyterian worship in this area antedates 1734. Its south and east walls were built of dressed stone in contrast to the others of rough stone. It once boasted a high pulpit on the north side, and

*(continued on page 17)*





## A NEWTOWN CITIZEN REMINISCES

by Betty Craighead

"I can remember when there was a horse at almost every other house in Newtown." John McKenney should know because, in his words, he can "pull rank on many in Newtown" since he has lived there most of his life except for about four years.

A semi-retired stonecutter, John I. McKenney at the age of 66 lives an active life at 414 E. Washington Avenue, Newtown, the home he lived in as a child and later returned to and bought for his own family in 1945. John McKenney's reminiscences are as appealing and varied as his many unusual interests and activities.

Currently working on a history of Washington Avenue from State Street to his own home, John McKenney recalls that back in the days of Newtown's horses a blacksmith lived a few doors away. Where Dr. Leister's property is now, on the southeast corner of Lincoln and Washington Avenues, was a pasture for clydesdales, the large draft horses that pulled the log wagons for Watson's Lumber Yard. Smaller horses pulled the wagons that took lumber around the town, but the big animals drew the wagons that hauled the huge logs in from the outside.

John McKenney remembers when Newtown still had trolleys and the medicine shows came to town touting a popular cure-all called "rattlesnake oil". What were called Combination Sales were held at the corner of State Street and Washington Avenue, where the Brick Hotel is now, and anything from livestock on down was auctioned off.

He talks with pleasure of the sleigh rides and races on Chancellor Street, with always one up hill race and one down hill race. "And everyone," he says, "had sleigh bells. Some were kept shined and some were not." In fact all horses wore harness bells hung in the spot on the harness that would create the most movement for the bells.

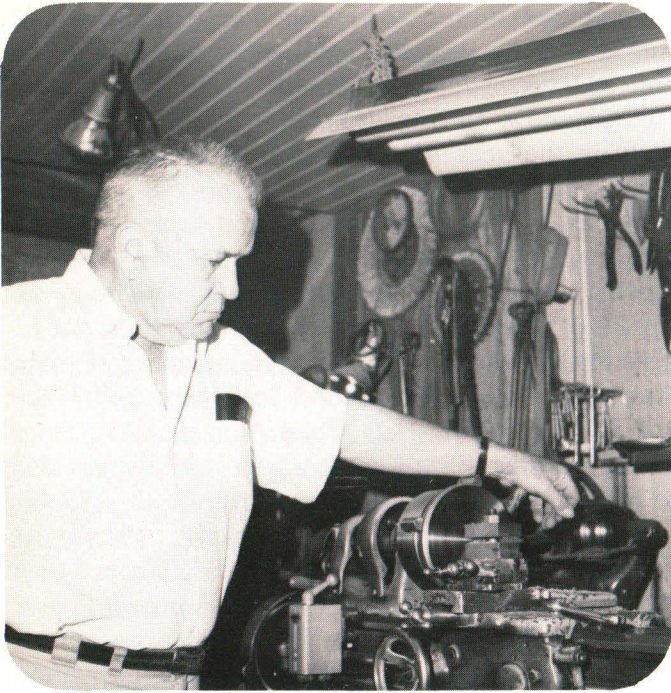
"You learn so much when you are a kid," John McKenney says, and tells about the time when as a boy he worked on Saturdays for a grocer and was initiated into the difference between a "buying scale" and a "selling scale"! Soda crackers were kept in a big barrel and sold by the pound in a paper bag.

With such a lively interest in the history of his town it is only natural that Mr. McKenney has been a member of the Newtown Historical Society since that organization began. A recent past president, he gives lectures to clubs like the Questers and to schools and colleges. He also hosts and instructs the many groups of school children which each year visit the Court Inn and the Old Presbyterian Church. In one of his lectures Mr. McKenney takes apart a copy of a Windsor chair to show how it was put together without the use of glue. "The Windsor, a valuable antique today, was then," he says, "a poor man's chair." A fine collection of old brasses donated by Mr. McKenney to the Historical Society is housed on

the second floor of the Court Inn on Court Street.

"We must study the past to be able to be prepared for what will happen in the future," John McKenney





states very strongly. He feels that "history is truth."

Born in Philadelphia on January 20, 1907, he was only three or four years old when his father decided to take the family back to his home town of Newtown. They lived at South State street where Doyle's Real Estate is now and in the house on North State called the Hanging Lamp, an antique shop. The Hanging Lamp, built before 1800, was part of the Newtown Commons and was once owned by the last stage coach driver out of Newtown. Mr. McKenney has given the old deeds of the house to the Bucks County Historical Society. For fifty years a stone-cutter, John McKenney as a young boy started working for his father in the family business. He says he graduated from high school one day and with no time off, began work the very next day. And the same skill with his hands that enabled him to learn to use the hammer and chisel and later the air hammer and the art of sand blasting in his craft, he uses now in his hobbies of furniture refinishing and brass making.

From his workshop at the back of his property on Washington Avenue come brass candlesticks, harness bells, and trivets copied from the old originals. A sand mold is made from a wooden pattern, the hot metal is poured into the sand mold and the finished piece is polished by machine and by hand. Unlike the yellow of old brass the copies are more pink in color because of the greater amount of copper in the material. And old candlesticks are hollow while Mr. McKenney's are solid. These details are important because with

honesty and special integrity for the craftsmen of the past, John McKenney doesn't want his copies to be someday mistaken for originals.

He recalls that this happened back in the 30's when he and his father made a series of ladderback chairs. They were done so well with the wood smoked to give it an aged look, that the McKenneys heard later they were sold as authentic antiques.

In addition to his other activities, Mr. McKenney says he collects grandchildren. He and his wife Hilda have seven children — five boys and two girls, and the grandchildren, eighteen in all, range in age from one year to eleven years old. Family reunions tend to be lively times.

His wife, the former Hilda Smith, was born in the Oak Lane section of Philadelphia in 1908, but came to Newtown when she and John McKenney were married forty-one years ago. She shares his interest in antiques and old things and enjoys talking about her large and active family.

"There have been many changes in the last sixty years," notes John McKenney. He has observed many of them. And to judge by the gleam in the alert brown eyes the observation has been both interesting and enjoyable.

On the wall of his living room is a wooden plaque with the inscription "The Union and the Constitution forever." It seems a fitting motto for a man who has spent a lifetime expressing his love of country through active participation in the historic and civic interests of his town.



# the art of peaceable living

by edna pullinger

Sometime during the autumn of 1810 Edward Hicks, coachmaker and future painter of *The Peaceable Kingdom*, made the decision to leave Milford (now Hulmeville) and move to Newtown. Early in the year 1811 he bought a house on Court Street in Newtown from the lawyer Abraham Chapman, with the understanding that the lawyer be permitted to continue to live there as a boarder. Edward and his wife moved into their new home on April 16. They were not far from Edward's father, Isaac Hicks, who was living in a frame house on Main Street (now State Street) on a lot which is now the site of the White Hall Hotel, and not far from Edward's sister, Eliza Kennedy, whose house was also on Main Street, a short distance north.

Newtown, the county seat of Bucks County, was at this time on a very busy thoroughfare, there being two major stagecoach lines — the Quakertown-Bristol line and the Philadelphia-Easton line — which dropped passengers in Newtown, necessitating the service of several inns. In his journal Hicks wrote this observation about Newtown when he moved into it: "Every tenth house was a tavern."

When the artist walked to the shopping area to buy ginger cakes for his wife from Tamar Worstall, or groceries from Francis Murray, the Revolutionary War veteran, he sometimes passed at least five busy inns or hotels. Walking north from his home up Court Street on a hot day, the doors being open, he would have sometimes heard the sound of heated legal discussion — or ribaldry — from within Court Inn, a tavern built seventy-eight years before by Joseph Thornton, Sr. Turning west he would have passed the two-story Brick Hotel, built and named during his early boyhood by the famous architect, Amos Strickland, and adorned with "modern" Classic Revival porticoes, columns, and arches. On Main Street, intermingled with the loud, grating noises, from a block west, of the stone quarry operated by John Milnor, he would have heard the sounds of merriment in "The Old Frame Tavern" when he went inside to get his mail. This tavern had been operating as a public inn since 1726, and was to continue in this service for sixty-five years more.

Strolling south of The Old Frame Tavern, he would have passed the new stone building erected by Thomas Ross the year before as a hotel. From outside this building he would have heard the sounds of chatter from the pressroom of the current news sheet, *Herald of Liberty*, and he would have sometimes stepped inside to complain about the news of the world to the publisher, David A. Robinson. Proceeding over a block north, Hicks would have



passed the inn now known as the Temperance House, serving also as a schoolhouse, where he often heard the singing of the proprietors, Andrew McMinn, the ex-soldier and scholar, and his wife, Nancy. The historian Josiah H. Smith, a temperance advocate, gives this information about the McMinns: "Andy and Nancy were both fond of whiskey. Nancy was a bar-tender in their little tavern, and with Andy made two good customers."

The people of Newtown, Hicks wrote in his journal, "seemed principally to depend upon the courts and the spoil of litigious contention. The lawyers, county officers, and principal men of the place, were mostly free masons, among whom religion and morals were at a very low ebb." To his observation about the taverns in town, Hicks added this bit of information about the houses in general: "Every twentieth [was] of bad report."

Concerning membership in the Society of Friends in 1811, to which group Hicks belonged, he wrote: "I think that there were not more than four or five families of Friends in Newtown and its vicinity, no meeting of Friends nor hardly such a thing thought of." At this time Newtown Friends were attending Makefield Friends Meeting, situated nearby in the farm country. On the expansive porch extending along the front of the meetinghouse, Friends often congregated on Sundays for friendly conversation, causing John Comly, in his journal, to wag a reproving finger at them: "I was affected at this place with many standing out among the sheds, in companies, for a long time before they came into the house, occasioning the meeting to be long in gathering and settling . . . Again, after meeting, if less time were occupied in unnecessary conversation, and remaining in companies in and about our meetinghouses, it would be more becoming the occasion."

The only church building standing in Newtown in 1811 was the Presbyterian Church on Sycamore Street, built in 1769 while James Boyd was minister, on ground donated by the husband of Hannah Harris, in whose house, a few steps down the road, George Washington had stayed the night after the battle of Trenton to write his report to Congress. Citizens of Newtown were still talking about how Hessian soldiers were imprisoned in the church for a while after the great victory.

Edward Hicks had not been in Newtown more than one year before a three-year war with Great Britain began. In 1813 the county seat was moved from Newtown to Doylestown, and life in Newtown proceeded to change quickly. The courthouse now

being vacant, Newtown Friends arranged to rent the building for a year and a half, using it every Sunday and Tuesday morning. Three months after the word "PEACE" had been hung on the door of the editorial office of the Newtown news sheet, *Herald of Liberty*, on April 1, 1815, the first meeting inside the courthouse was held, with Edward as the first speaker. This was the beginning of Newtown Friends Meeting. Two years later the Newtown Friends built their own stone meetinghouse on Court Street, where Edward was again the first speaker.

About the year 1818 Hicks decided to quit the only business he understood and loved, painting, in order to try farming, an occupation which he thought to be more in keeping with the character of a Christian. He found he had no aptitude for farming, however, and the venture left him in bankruptcy. "Had I my time to go over again," he wrote in his memoirs, "I think I would have taken the advice given me by my old friend Abraham Chapman: 'Edward, thee has now the source of independence within thyself, in thy peculiar talent for painting. Keep to it . . . and thee can always be comfortable'."

Edward returned to painting, but with health and spirits somewhat impaired. He received help from many quarters, however: "Friends and others most kindly patronized me, and the county and township officers gave me a considerable number of directors or index boards to paint, which to me was a profitable job."

The spirits of Hicks must have been given a lift when he moved into his new, more spacious, stone home on Penn Street in 1821, after selling his Court Street home to his friend John Comly. Concerning the move Hicks writes, however, in a subdued manner: "My home consists of a house which some might think of but mean appearance, and a lot of twelve acres of land, the produce of which, with my working industriously with my own hands at my trifling trade, I can pay cash for every thing I buy and owe no man."

Six years later Hicks was able to report in his memoirs that he had achieved financial stability, and the status of a respected citizen: "I am now employing four hands, beside myself, in coach, sign, and ornamental painting, and still more in repairing and finishing carriages, and I think I should find no difficulty in doubling my business. I have done the painting for two respectable coachmakers for ten years." During the last years of his life Hicks also worked as a janitor for Newtown Preparative Meeting,

(continued on page 38)



## NEW TOWN

*... a fine place to Live,  
Shop, Study, Play and  
Worship.*

*photos by chip goehring*

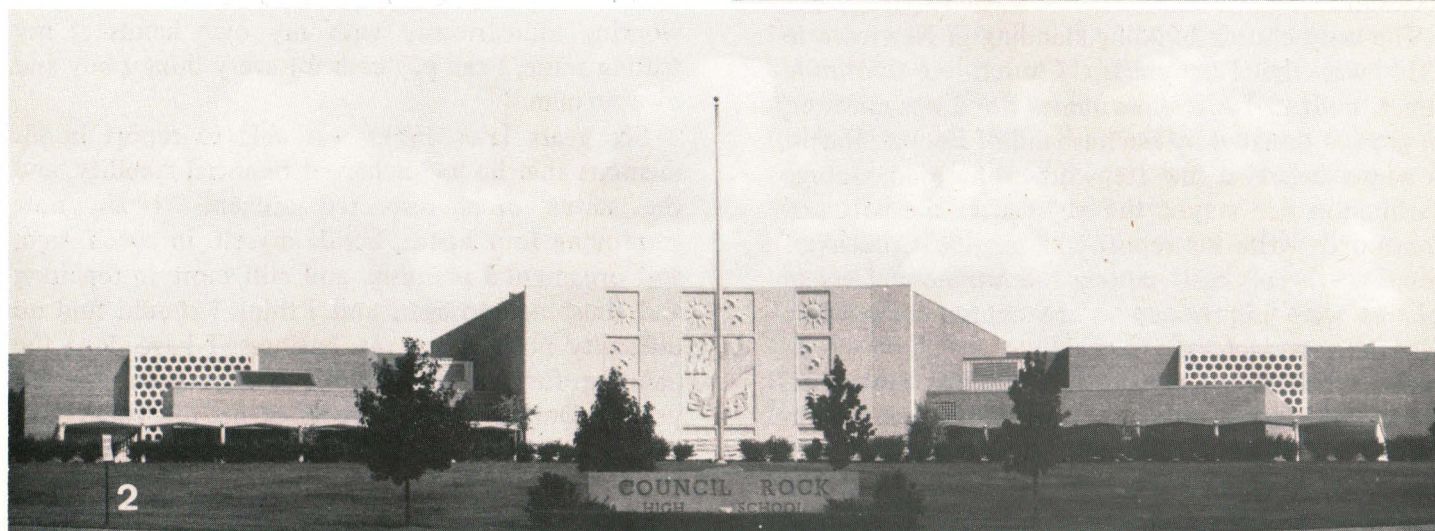
*1 Town House — Court Street*

*2 New Council Rock High School*

*3 Tyler Hall Administration Building  
Bucks County Community College*

*4 Serenity of Quaker Meeting House*

*5 Handsome Altar Reredos at St. Luke's Episcopal Church — one of two replicas of famed Della Robia original in Barcelona; other replica is in Metropolitan Museum in New York. Given to the church by Mrs. Horace G. Reeder in memory of her husband.*

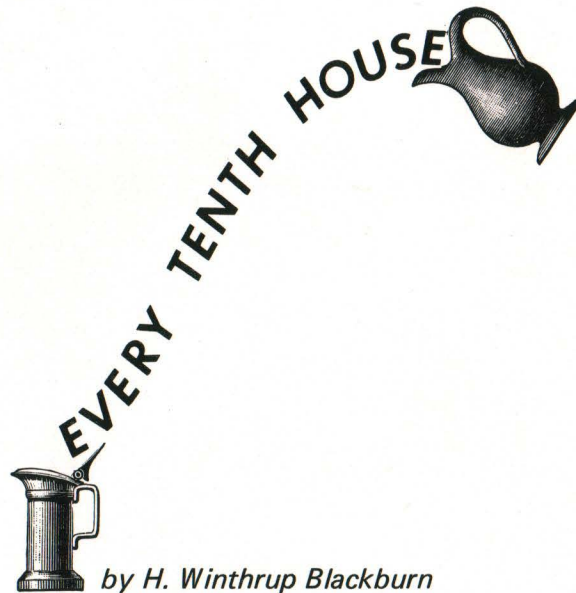








# EVERY TENTH HOUSE



by H. Winthrop Blackburn



Most towns and cities have a unique character of their own; a character that has been formed and molded by history, tradition, and the lives and customs of the people who have lived there. Some towns, once they develop a particular character, carry it for centuries while others undergo subtle changes that eventually may change a charming 18th century village into a grimy industrial center, or a bustling colonial town into a quiet community, no longer in the mainstream, that still retains some reminders of its past glories.

One of Newtown's most famous sons, the painter Edward Hicks, once said of his hometown that, "every tenth house was a tavern and every twentieth was of bad repute." This statement hardly describes the Newtown of today. None of Bucks County's historians have brought us any information concerning any houses of bad repute, but their

writings abound with stories of the old taverns. When you consider that four colonial taverns, the Brick Hotel, the Temperance House, the Court Inn, and the Bird-In-Hand, are still standing in Newtown, we are led to assume that Edward Hicks' assessment, at least as far as the taverns was concerned, was not too inaccurate.

In colonial days, and in the early years of the Republic, Newtown was the busiest place in the county. As the county seat, all of the courts met there, and it also served as the polling place for the middle and lower parts of the county. Each term of court brought throngs of lawyers, defendants, plaintiffs, and assorted hangers-on to the county seat and the taverns did a thriving business, providing beds for the tired and food for the hungry. If some of the early critics are to be taken at face value, the major business of the taverns, however, was derived from

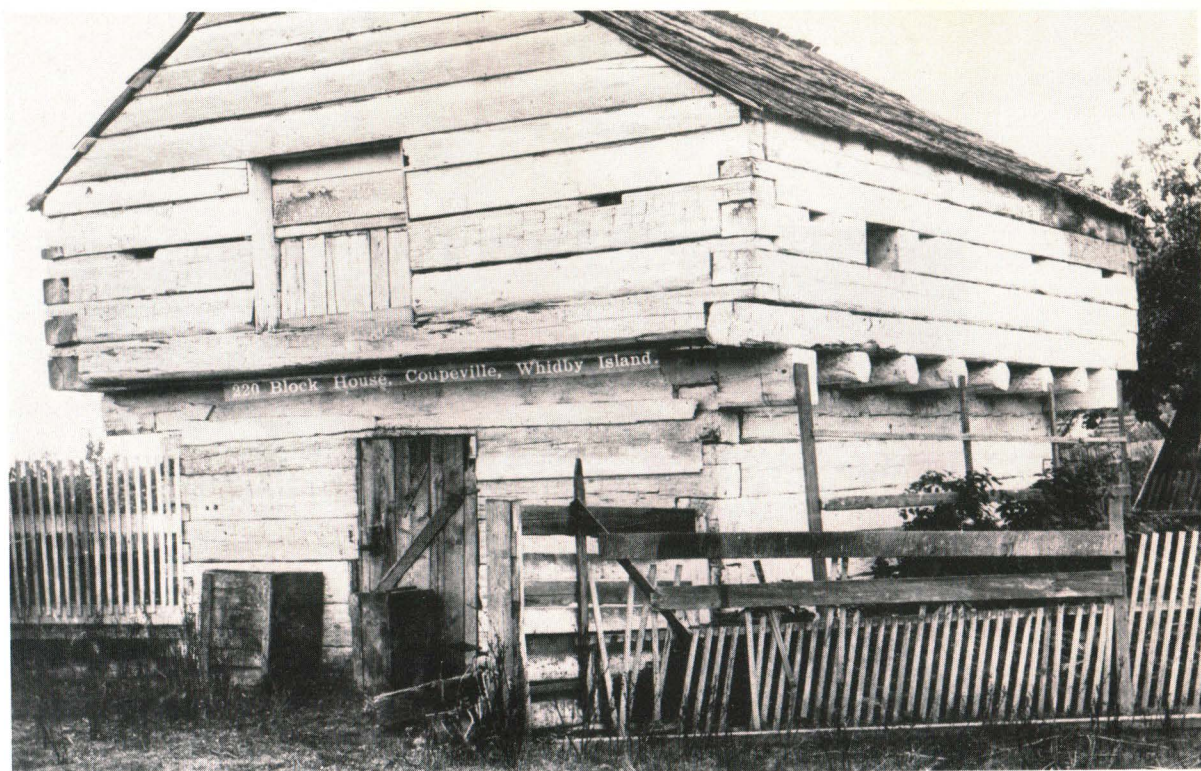


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*The Block House in the State of Washington was used during the 19th century as shelter from Indian attacks. Pioneers used rough-sawn boards to make the structure secure against bullets and arrows.*

## Little Known Facts

Today's interest in preserving the environment is leading to the rediscovery of natural building materials such as wood. A practical material as well, wood is being used because it helps houses blend with their surroundings — giving a warm, distinctive atmosphere to suburban communities.

Ever since man moved out of the cave, he's been using wood for shelter. It was — and still is — a handy and versatile product. But these early architects could never have imagined some of the unique properties we now know about wood.

For example, wood lasts longer than a lifetime — sometimes for centuries. Wood piles used to support buildings were recently found intact after being under the streets of Venice for 1000 years. Timbers 2700 years old have been found in the tomb of King Gordius near Ankara, Turkey.

Here in America, hundreds of buildings erected in Revolutionary times still stand today. The old Ironworks House in Saugus, Mass., built in 1646, has survived more than 300 harsh New England winters with much of its original framing, flooring and shingles still in place.

One of the reasons wood lasts so long is that it is incredibly strong — actually, pound for pound, wood

is stronger than steel.

Arched wood beams over the University of Utah Sports Center in Salt Lake City support 180 tons of roof, elevators, broadcasting booths and catwalks. A wood block just 1 inch square and 2¼ inches long can support 10,000 pounds or roughly the weight of three automobiles.

This amazing strength comes from wood's unique cellular structure made up of thousands of hollow cells. The cells are formed from tiny cellulose fibers — approximately 3 million per cubic inch of wood.

These tough cellulose fibers are cemented together by lignin, a natural glue. Lignin is not only strong, but also largely impervious to water and extremes of heat and cold. This helps wood endure exposure to the elements.

Lignin also makes wood elastic. That's why wood has "give" — and explains why wood floors are more comfortable to walk on than concrete. Its elasticity allows wood to bend without breaking under the stress of high winds or earthquakes. As a result many wood-frame homes survived the 1964 Alaskan earthquake, Hurricane Camille in 1969, and the Los Angeles earthquake last year. A recent study at California Institute of Technology showed that one





*This Victorian home was expensive to build in the late 19th century, but would cost a lot more to replace today. The extensive millwork and carvings took advantage of the decorative qualities of wood.*

## About Wood

story wood-frame houses are among the safest buildings in a large earthquake.

Wood is also a natural insulator against heat, cold and noise because its cells contain millions of tiny airspaces — and air is one of the best insulators known.

The U.S. Navy is taking advantage of wood's unique insulating capabilities in the Polaris missile, where thin sheaves of spruce veneer are used to insulate the nose cone. As the missile descends through the atmosphere where skin temperature exceeds 1450 degree F, the outer layers of spruce char, but the inner sheaves remain a comparatively cool 95 degree F.

The cellular structure of wood also helps reflect or absorb sound waves. This is why wood is used extensively for noise control in churches, auditoriums and schools as well as homes.

The utility of wood is more than matched by its visual appeal. It can be used effectively in any architectural style — log cabin to contemporary. Its natural beauty requires little, if any, maintenance even outdoors. Exposure to the elements usually enhances its appearance.

Swiss chalets and New England barns have

weathered centuries without paint or stain. Left untouched, the wood turns a muted driftwood gray. It can be stained to intensify its natural grain and texture or painted with new acrylic or latex finishes. These keep wood exterior surfaces fresh for years.

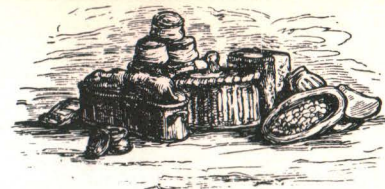
Wood is remarkably easy to maintain indoors, too. Many hardwood floors now have long-lasting finishes in colors and natural tones that need only occasional waxing. According to government studies, hardwood floors can give more than 50 years of service. Housewives particularly appreciate prefinished or textured wood paneling because it is easy to clean — and never needs painting.

With its great variety of colors and textures, wood is as varied as nature itself. The warmth and character of wood creates a greater harmony between the house and the land. This is important to home buyers who are rejecting the barren sub-divisions of the 1950's for developments which fit homes within the natural contours of the land and leave green areas for community use.

As an architect once said of wood: "If it didn't exist, and someone were to invent it today, it would be hailed as one of the greatest discoveries of all time."



# Distinctive Dining



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(NEWTOWN DAY cont. from page 5)

has 59 high-box pews standing on a brick floor. The gallery along the south side was occupied presumably by servants and slaves owned by the members. These walls werved as a prison for General Washington's Hessian prisoners following the Battle of Trenton in the Revolution.

**Mr. & Mrs. Francis H. Wyeth**

**Eagle Road**

**Newtown, Pa.**

This stone and frame house, built prior to 1776 was the home of John Hayhurst, Minister at Wrightstown Friends Meeting and was used by General John Sullivan as his headquarters before the Battle of Trenton.

The stone portion of the house still has a corner fireplace in the kitchen and an unusually fine 18th Century corner fireplace upstairs with its original mantle and trim still intact. Still remaining on this property is a one room school house.

**TINKER FARM**

**Mr. & Mrs. Udo Fischer**

**Creamery Road**

**Newtown, Pa.**

In 1730, the house consisted of three rooms, the dining room, present den and a bedroom above. Many years and a few additions later, a rambling farmhouse nestles into the hillside at Tinker Farm.

A Huge walk-in fire place in the living room retains its original importance in spite of later changes in the architecture of the room. Interesting local families have lived in the house over the years, and have left reminders of their presence.

There is a pay master's window drawer, the former "ugly room", and a cupboard of memorabilia collected by the Fischer family, all contributing to the feeling of continuity and warmth to the house.

**SHADY HILL**

**Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Burton**

**Wrightstown Road, R.D. 1**

**Newtown, Pa.**

This fieldstone farmhouse with fine cornices and paneling was built in the first half of the 18th Century. The earliest part was said to have been built of log and frame in 1690. Improvements were made in 1780-85. The place belonged to the Borroughs family for several generations. (A son was disowned for joining the British army during the Revolution.)

(continued on page 30)





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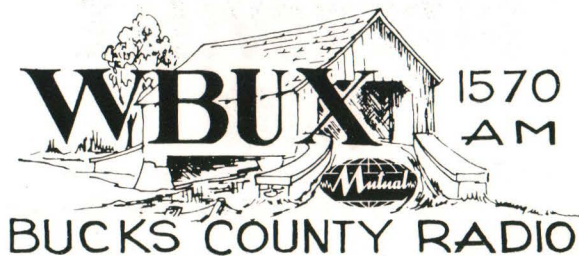
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## the button lady

by JEAN E. FICKES

Rx

Take one fractured ankle and  
one box of buttons, mix well,  
wait several weeks and the  
fracture will be healed.



That is indeed a strange prescription, but for Marion Beans of Newtown this combination resulted in an interesting hobby as well as an interesting business. Over twenty-five years ago Miss Beans fractured her ankle and a considerate lady from across the river brought her button collection to amuse the invalid for a few hours.

Miss Beans was more than amused. She was so fascinated that today her own collection of old and unusual buttons is fabulous.

Remember the story of the little girl who was frightened by two big geese and how she hid behind her mother's skirt while her mother shooed away the geese with a huge umbrella? Miss Beans has a button depicting this scene, a perfect picture, exquisite in every detail.

Marion Beans is particularly proud of her storybook buttons: Peter Rabbit; Tom Sawyer; the popular Aesop's Fables, one showing The Fox and The Grapes, another The Eagle and the Hart. She has many buttons telling the stories from Grimm's Fairy

*(continued on page 33)*



**F**or a quarter century — or close to it — Trinity Church in Solebury has had a bazaar the first Saturday in December. Some say the bazaar is older, dating from the 2nd World War; some would put it earlier still. There were suppers in the '20s — we can be sure of that, and at various times in the years that followed baked goods and needlework were displayed and sold at the church suppers. During the mid '40s baby clothes were in great demand and small groups of sewers worked long hours to produce enough such articles for the annual sale. Hundreds of cookies were also baked at this time, and in '47 or '48 the women of the Church decided to concentrate their fund-raising efforts on sewing and baking for a bazaar.

From the very beginning Christmas cookies were a major feature as parish bakers dug out family recipes from Scotland, Germany, Switzerland and Scandinavia. All of the old favorites were produced: sand tarts, cinnamon stars, pfeffernusse, Berliner kranser, spritz kuchen and S cookies, but the greatest drawing card was Scotch shortbread baked in antique Pennsylvania Dutch butter molds. These molds are collectors' items, costing as much as \$400 apiece, and they are often remarkably beautiful with their cow, fruit and flower designs. The aprons of Trinity soon acquired almost equal renown. They far surpassed the store-bought aprons of the time both in originality and beauty, and were quickly snatched up as choice Christmas presents. In 1950 *Bucks Cooks* appeared, a collection of prized recipes from cooks in central Bucks County. Put together by the Women's Auxiliary, this featured illustrations by many famous local artists, including Daniel Garber, John Folinsbee, Ranulph Bye, Harry Leith-Ross, Alden Wicks, Charles Hargens, John Sharp, Charles Child and William F. Taylor. This, too, became a regular attraction of the bazaar, and to date over 20,000 copies have been sold.

By the early '50s the bazaar had developed so many booths there was scarcely space enough in the parish hall. The small stage was appropriated for Christmas greens, wreathes and plants, and orders were taken for trees. There was a Pantry Shelf with baked goods, jams, pickles, canned fruit and vegetables, and various candies, all home-produced. Cards, bridge tallies, calendars and such filled another table. There were aprons, of course, and stuffed animals, as well as many other kinds of needlework. Cookie boxes lined the wall by the hundreds.

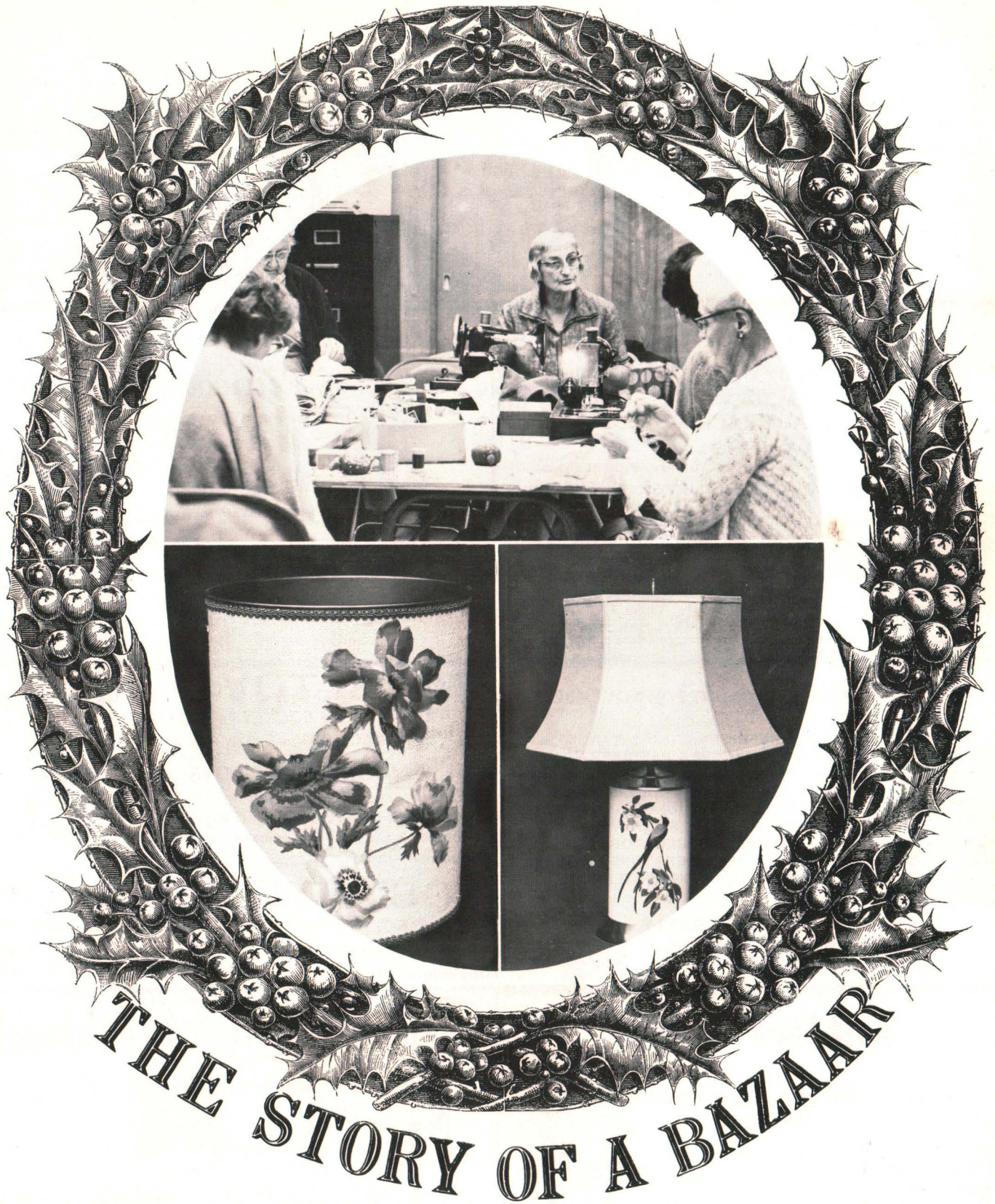
"Trinkets and Treasures" displayed articles culled from overflowing jewelry boxes, china cupboards and attics — and many a real treasure was found there. But the outstanding feature of the early '50s was the Christmas decorations: tremendous candles, Christmas tree balls, gilded wreaths and plaster Christmas trees in old gold and cream that resembled Louis XV ornaments. Lunch and tea (with homemade sandwiches and cakes) were served regularly during these years.

This pattern continued through much of the '50s and '60s, though rarely are any two bazaars quite alike, and the church has grown year by year, in no small part due to the work so willingly donated. Cookies still dominate the bazaar: last year 425 pounds were sold, including 16,000 sand tarts cut in traditional shapes and decorated with icing, coloured sugars and nuts. The Pantry Shelf has become the Country Store, but the offerings are little changed. Christmas trees, sprays and wreaths can still be ordered; *Bucks Cooks* is still on display, while Trinkets and Treasures carries on as the White Elephant booth (though perhaps with larger White Elephants). But there are new attractions, too: in place of aprons and Christmas ornaments there have appeared handsome decoupage lamps and decorative waste baskets covered with burlap and braid and adorned with stuffed cut-out figures; hand-made moccasins are on sale and extraordinary china dolls created by Helen McCook, some with portrait faces of real children. Sweaters, needlework pillows, crewel work, embroidery and children's clothes all testify to the fine craftsmanship of the women of Trinity.

A new and very popular stall is Men's Lib, offering the handiwork of male church members. A gingerbread house appears here, lasagna, salad dressings, dips, a macrame belt. Teenagers make box lunches, and 6th graders serve the hot lunch which has replaced the earlier sandwiches. There are grab bags for children (a long-established feature) and, for adults, a Round-the-World grab bag stocked with articles sent home by vacationing parish members. And a puppet show is applauded by an enthusiastic full house.

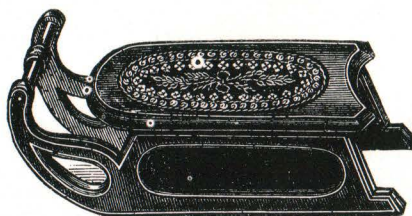
Most of these attractions will be found again in this year's Bazaar, Saturday, Dec. 2nd from 10 A.M. to 4 P.M. at Trinity Episcopal Church, Solebury. Greek dishes will be featured at the lunch and a puppet show or magician will provide entertainment at 2 P.M.





by Charlotte Orr Gantz





# CHRISTMAS CHRISTMAS CHRISTMAS

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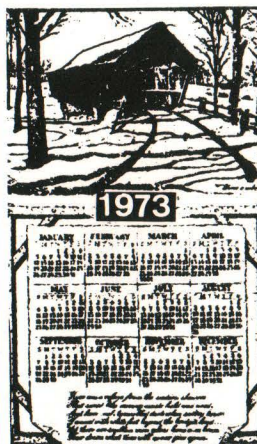


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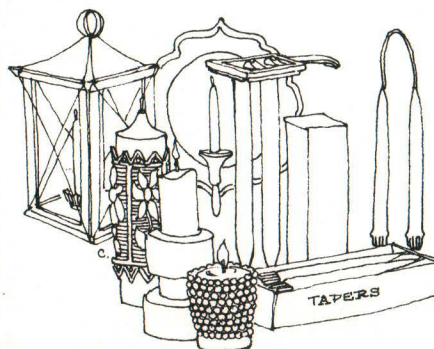
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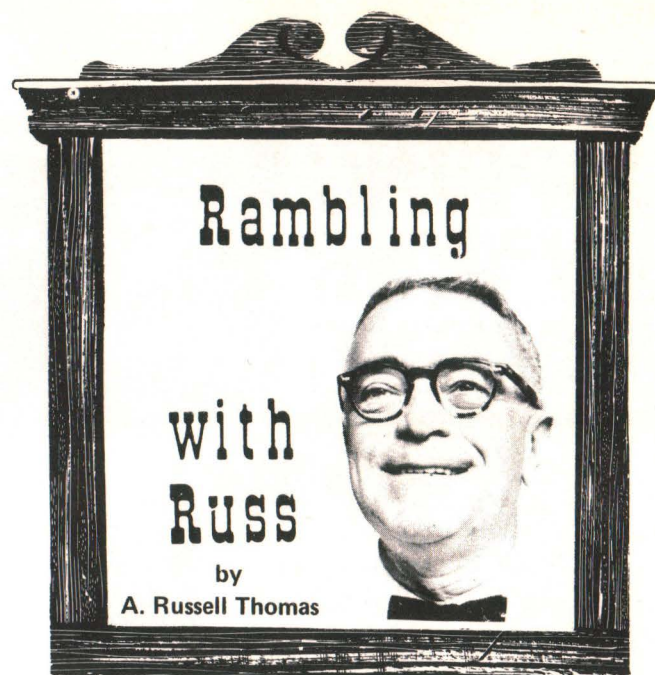




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### GREAT MONTH FOR LEO

FOR THIS LEO, August marked the arrival of a 78th birthday, celebrated in Madison, Wisconsin, with a most gracious and thoughtful daughter and her equally considerate husband and their three wonderful children, Karen, Jon, and Mark, plus the company and companionship of a most charming bride-to-be. That's why the 17th of August was a memorable occasion, but the 25th, back home in Doylestown, was another red-letter date when Bucks County Judge Isaac S. Garb officiated at the marriage of this Rambler and Mrs. Esther Whittley Larrimore.

\* \* \*

FOR VACATIONING, unmatched hospitality and good food, I'll take Wisconsin any time. Among the many cards, letters and congratulatory notes I received a huge birthday card with this inscription: "Celebrate Your Birthday In The Manner That Pleases You Most And If That Doesn't Work Out, You Can Always Go Back to Cake and Ice Cream." It was signed, "All Our Love, On Your 78th — Nancy and Eric."

\* \* \*

WE MOTORED TO Baraboo, Wisconsin, home of the world-famous "Circus World Museum", owned and operated by the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, along the banks of a peaceful river. The Museum is a unique and very much alive national monument dedicated to the greatest form of amusement the world has ever known — The Circus!

\* \* \*



WALKING THROUGH the gates of this colorful world of circus history was like dropping into the back lot of a real circus between shows. Packed with colorful circus wagons, plus railroad cars, animal tents, there are six huge display buildings and the Big Top where live performances were staged each day. This all happens in the very buildings and on the very grounds where Ringling Bros. Circus winter-quartered for 34 years during the heyday of the outdoor circus. The Circus World Museum covers a 25-acre tract with contents and buildings representing a cost of many millions of dollars. It was tempting to follow the shrieking sounds of the old American Steam Calliope into the Big Barn. The Museum contains more than 100 circus parade wagons — the largest collection in the world, with all wagons restored to look exactly as they did years ago when they lumbered down America's main streets to celebrate the arrival of the greatest entertainment on earth — "The Circus".

\* \* \*

EVERY MORNING from mid-May through mid-September, at the very spot where the Ringling Bros. started with a 45 by 90 foot tent in 1884, circus fans gather around either side of the bright circus terrain and watch the fascinating loading and unloading process, using powerful Percheron horses. We saw an Arabian horse leading a mini-circus parade around the showgrounds to ballyhoo the stupendous, magnificent circus show about to unfold under the Big Tent.

\* \* \*

EACH JULY, a real circus train packed with the Museum's valuable wagons, animals and wardrobe leaves Baraboo for the sentimental rail journey to Milwaukee where "The Greatest Circus Parade of All Time" marches through the downtown streets on July 4th to recreate an historic presentation of the old-time street parade, sponsored by the civic-minded Joseph Schlitz Brewing Company. This featured event during "Old Milwaukee Days" annually attracts more than a million people. As much as eight hours ahead of time the crowds gather to see this refreshing bit of Americana. A vacation spent in the spectacular, stupendous world of the circus is an educational and historic experience no one forgets. It is the greatest institution of its kind in the world—for children of All Ages, even for a bride-and-bridegroom-to-be!

\* \* \*

(continued on page 34)



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EST. 1866

## Savidge Brothers

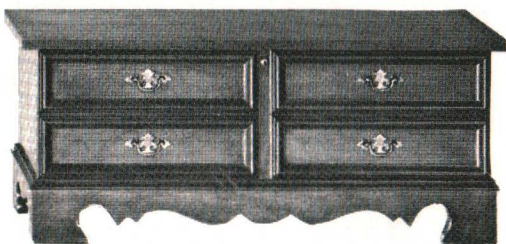
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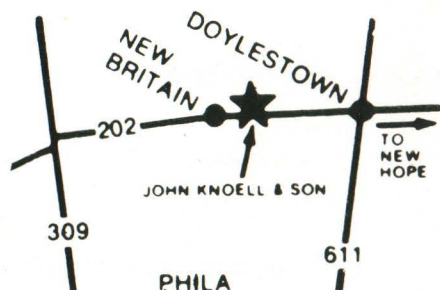
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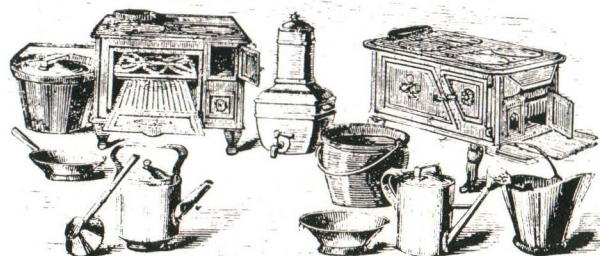
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## What's New that's Old

by Dorothy A. McFerran

### THE PRINTED WORD

by Dorothy A. McFerran

What is a chapbook anyhow? A collector's bargain, that's what! Genuine chapbooks, small, stitched together paper booklets published in 15th century France were named from the French word "ceap" (accent on the e) which meant bargain. They were sold on the streets by hawkers, peddlers, tradesmen. Add "man" to the word and you come up with the English version we use today for the little books, chapbooks sold by chapmen. Chapmen were all the Yankee peddlers who plied their trade in the boondocks back in the 1800's in America.

Now we lump all small religious and moral tracts, from the 19th century, under the loose heading chapbooks. Indeed, they all bear a close resemblance to the originals. The little books are on cheap, now yellowed paper, but most of them contain many charming woodcut illustrations which are an additional bonus for collectors.



The reading matter is something else. Although most of it was aimed at children, I doubt if you would read it to your own children. Are you ready for a typical example of a moral lesson of about 1850? I quote verbatim and don't blame the grammar or punctuation on me... it is enough to drive an editor up the wall: (The woodcut is of three charming little maidens in a garden. One little girl is shown plucking an apple) Got the picture? Now for the lesson:

### THE LITTLE THIEF

"You may take a walk in my garden, my little girls; but do not touch the fruit. It is not yet quite ripe, and it would not now do you good."

Oh, for shame, Lucy; you have taken an apple from the tree against the wall. Do you know that you are now a little thief? What shall I do to such a wicked child. You must pray to God to forgive you, for the sake of Jesus Christ; and may you never be so naughty again. I am glad, Mary, that you ran away. and would not touch the apples."

On the other hand, we are indebted to a similar little pamphlet for the longtime famous and favorite story about the Father of Our Country. A chapman-author peddled such little books, including one of his own, from 1794 to 1825 from New York City to the deep south. Mason Locke Weems, alias "Parson Weems" penned the story about Washington and the cherry tree, a very moral lesson as we all know.

Best known publisher of the period was Solomon King of New York who advertised his booklets in 1828. He was responsible for putting out nearly two hundred titles which included fairy tales, nursery stories, and religious and moral tracts.

If, like me, you are addicted to the printed word (any printed word) you'll find browsing about the paper products table at a flea market very rewarding indeed. In addition to chapbooks and their relatives, there are just interesting old books. Not rare, first editions, but out of print cook books, medical books, health and beauty books. There are also old deeds and legal papers.

Old magazines are equally spell binding. I go for women's magazines of the turn of the century period. Often I get a bonus as good as the chapbook woodcuts in a whole page of paper dolls that some little girl forgot to cut-out; or a striking commercial illustration by Maxfield Parrish or some other prominent artist of the time.

## It looks good in races too.



### Triumph GT6 Mk3

If the sleek fastback lines and the well-appointed interior of the GT-6 make it look like more show car than sports car, don't be fooled.

The GT-6 is the national E Class champion racer in SCCA competition. It has been the champion for two years running.

So if you're thinking of buying one, don't be afraid that you're simply paying for style or the sumptuous reclining seats, or for standard equipment detailing like the walnut facia and the self-defrosting rear window.

Figure you're investing in an all independent suspension system, a 2-litre, 6 cylinder engine, disc brakes in front, rack and pinion steering, good acceleration and a good track record.

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The Bucks County Board of Commissioners recently approved J. Herman Stotz of Bedminster, Pennsylvania as Curator of Historic Properties. Mr. Stotz will primarily be working on the restoration of the Moravian Pottery and Tile Works. However, other properties such as Durham Mill, John J. Stover House, and Stover-Myer Mill will be under his supervision.

Mr. Stotz is a graduate of Temple University, Philadelphia and the Klock Institute. He has been employed with the County for the past 10 years where his talents as an expert woodworker have been employed in the design and making of the Park signs.

He feels that "the historic aspect, the social significance, the educational value as well as the recreational needs of today's leisure can be fulfilled by a well balanced historical program." Using this philosophy Mr. Stotz plans an extensive restoration program at all of the historical sites owned by the County in keeping with the Parks & Recreation Board policy.

Essentially the job of Curator of Historic Properties will be one of directing, planning, organizing and conducting a balanced program of historical interpretation and restoration throughout the Bucks County Park System. At this particular time the County is very interested in acquiring, cataloguing and preserving artifacts and historic material connected with the Moravian Pottery and Tile Works. A similar venture was undertaken by the County and Mr. Stotz in restoring the John J. Stover House on River Road in Tinicum and the Stover-Myer Mill on Dark Hollow Road in Pipersville. The program was extremely successful and it is hoped that the same success can be applied to the Tile Works. The County hopes to restore the Tile Works to its original

status as a factory producing Henry Mercer's unique tiles.

It will be Mr. Stotz's job to locate the original artifacts used in the tile making process, display them and generally put the structure into working order as both a museum to educate and inform the public of the unique process of tile making and to, hopefully, restore the structure so that tiles can be made.

\* \* \*

An appeal to nominate an "official county flower" has been answered by the Allied Florists of Bucks County. Leading nominee of the florists' group is the carnation. Second most popular is the iris, closely followed by the marigold, black-eyed Susan and peony, with scattered votes for the chrysanthemum, geranium, dogwood, azalea, pansy, snap dragon and rose.

The request for an official flower came from the Bucks County Board of Commissioners, which asked the county's Department of Parks and Recreation to poll local, professional florists for their suggestions.

These nominations are the result. County residents may cast their votes or make suggestions by writing Louis A. Cable, Superintendent of Recreation, Bucks County Department of Parks and Recreation, Administration Bldg., Doylestown, Pa. 18901, or by phoning Mr. Cable at 348-2911, ext. 305.

\* \* \*

A new Durham Boat is being built from old timbers and authentic plans of the first builders of Durham boats in 1750. A first exact replica was built by the Johnson Boat Company, Point Pleasant, New Jersey, in 1965, for the Trenton Business Clubs, as a tribute to their former President, Frederick Banks. It was presented to the Washington Crossing Foundation and has been used for the dramatic, highly popular pageant of the re-enactment of the Crossing of the Delaware by General Washington and his army on Christmas night 1776, every year since 1965. It has also been an inspiring and educational exhibit in the Washington Crossing State Park since that time.

Now, since the boat needs some repairs, and it must also be used as a model for the new Durham boat, it has been removed temporarily to the Johnson Boat Company docks, and it will be returned with the new replica in time for the Christmas Crossing, 1972.

The Honorary Chairman of the Foundation, James S. Copley, of California, has stated, "a fleet of Durham ore boats should be built and assembled permanently," to participate in the important 200th Anniversary of the historic Crossing at Christmas of the Bicentennial Year 1976.





*Mrs. Matthew Suydam, Jr. has been named Chairman of the Doylestown Hospital Relocation Fund Committee.*

This aim is now beginning to be realized with the gift of the new Durham Boat replica by Mrs. Frederick Banks, also in memory of her husband, Frederick Banks. This will be finished by December 15th, 1972, in time for the rehearsal and the re-enactment of the "Crossing of the Delaware," Christmas Day, 1972.

Mrs. Banks is a Trustee of the Washington Crossing Foundation and President of the Associates of the Washington Crossing Library of the American Revolution. She is a professional librarian, graduate of Columbia University School of Library Science. She has served on the Bicentennial Commission of Pennsylvania, is Vice-Chairman of Bucks County Bicentennial Committee, and has represented both the State and County at meetings of the American Revolution Bicentennial Commission.

\* \* \*

The Library of the Bucks County Historical Society, Pine and Ashland Streets, recently installed a microfilm reader-printer, providing a new copying service previously unavailable at the Library. The new equipment makes copies directly from microfilm.

The Library's collection of over 600 reels of microfilm includes census records of the county from 1800 to 1880, county tax records from 1782 to 1860, early deeds and wills, and a variety of other historical records. Most newspapers published in the county since 1958 are also available on microfilm. The Historical Society's priceless collection of earlier county newspapers are being filmed on a gradual basis as funds are available.

\* \* \*

(continued on page 39)

## PANORAMA

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Bensalem Shopping Plaza, Cornwell Hgts. • Bucks County Mall, Feasterville*"Bucks County's FIRST and LARGEST Savings Association"**(NEWTOWN DAY cont. from page 29)*

The wide floor boards, the original hardware and five fireplaces add interest, as do the family heirlooms, Nakashima furniture and paintings by Bucks County artists. There is a collection of Wedgewood, Delft and other ceramics.

A screened porch and terrace lead on to open lawn, gardens and stream.

**COW PALACE — 1738****Mr. & Mrs. Frank Best Puckett  
Washington Crossing Road  
Newtown, Pa.**

Set far back from the main road, the Cow Palace was converted from a barn into a house in 1855. The 47 foot long beam that runs the full length of the house, was the main structural support beam for the old barn. Above the beam is the former barn loft, now the library loft and card room.

The long living room with window bay, looks out to the unbroken countryside. Walking through the halls and passing various rooms, visitors come upon the bright red kitchen with its collection of china cows, then into the lovely dining room.

**THE BRICK HOTEL — 1864****Mrs. Jean Caudill  
State Street & Washington Avenue  
Newtown, Pa.**

In 1764 Amos Strickland built the two story brick building, and named it the Brick Hotel.

In 1824 it was bought by Joseph Archambault. He added the two story addition at the west end.

Joseph Archambault commissioned Edward Hicks to paint a tavern sign for the Hotel. The sign on one side showed Washington crossing the Delaware and the other the Declaration of Independence.

**LINTON HOUSE****C. Wilson Roberts  
22-24 South State Street  
Newtown, Pa.**

This house was built by William Linton in 1796. In 1800 it was owned by the Hough sisters and at that time was considered one of the finest mansions in town. The house was made over into a business establishment in 1916. The entrance hall and stair way have been retained in their original condition.

*(continued on page 32)*



(TENTH HOUSE cont. from page 12)

providing excessive quantities of strong drink to the excessively thirsty.

Election days provided another bonanza for the innkeepers. The town assumed a carnival atmosphere; a large market was set up and a program of horse races was a great attraction to both the horse owner and those who enjoyed a wager. All of these activities, of course, made the participants very thirsty.

The oldest known tavern, or inn, in Newtown was the Bird-In-Hand. Agnes Welsh obtained a tavern license in 1723 and in 1727 built the structure, now called the Bird-In-Hand, that served as a hostelry until 1858. The Bird-In-Hand name was not immediately adopted, but was the result of the theme of a new sign painted for the inn in the early 19th century by Edward Hicks. At the time of the revolution it was known as The Old Frame Tavern, an attempt, perhaps, to distinguish it from the newer Court Inn (1733), Brick Hotel (1764), and Temperance House (1772) all of brick or stone construction.

Early America's inns and taverns played a much more important role in the community's business life than do their modern counterparts. While we like to endow our ancestors with a certain aura of gentility, the fact remains that until the flowering of the temperance movement in the mid 19th century, Americans were a hard-drinking lot. Frequent tippling was not restricted to people of the "meaner sort." The business man, the lawyer, and the country squire all enjoyed their daily "happy hour." In the old days nobody referred to alcoholics, but the design of the bar in the Bird-In-Hand and many other colonial taverns suggests that the atmosphere in the bar room was not always tranquil. The bar itself was a counter in the corner of the room. Heavy bars ran from the top of the counter to the ceiling forming a cage for the protection of both the bar keep and his stock. The customers were served through a small opening in the cage.

The bartenders were apparently well protected, but the cage did not always protect the stock. One night, after the Bird-In-Hand had closed, a few customers who were still thirsty sneaked back in and, using a very long pair of tongs which they ran between the bars, snatched several bottles from the storage shelf against the wall.

The temperance movement of the 1840s, initially led by women, mustered the forces of righteousness against hard drink and its associated evils. The movement had a permanent effect on American

(continued on page 41)



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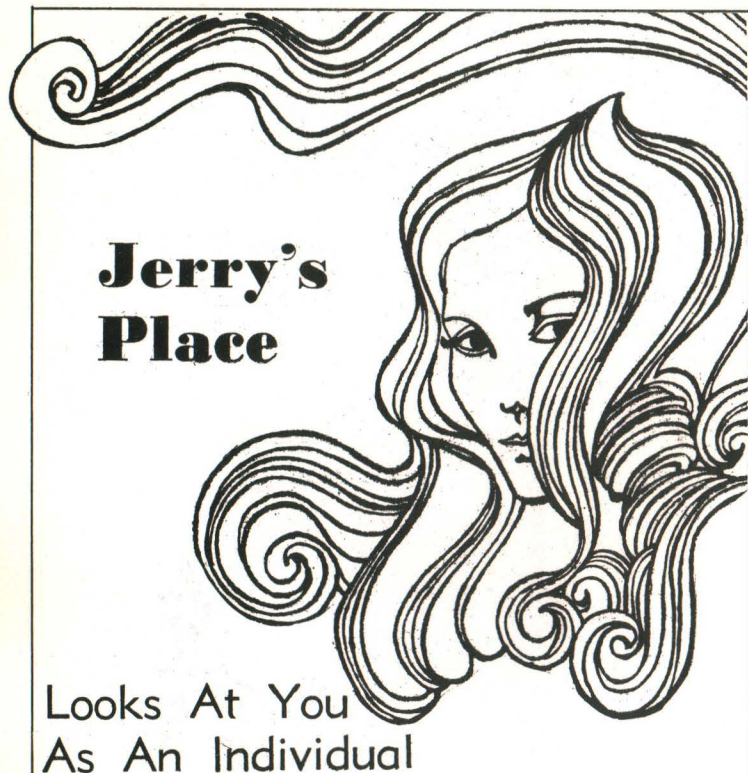
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(NEWTOWN DAY cont. from page 30)

### BOND BUILDING Mr. Sydney Yates 35 South State Street Newtown, Pa.

This attractive stone house was built on the foundation of the old Gaol when Newtown was the County seat of Bucks County from 1726 - 1812.

### FIRE STATION Newtown Fire Association Liberty Street Newtown, Pa.

Newtown's first fire engine, dating from the presidency of George Washington, is still in the possession of the Newtown Fire Association. After being in use for over one hundred years, "Old Washy" is still in workable condition.

Known as the Philadelphia type of "end stroke", double-deck engine, it has two powerful 6½" cylinders with 7" stroke, and was built in 1796 by Patrick Lyon. "Old Washy" will be on display at the Fire Station with a hook and ladder wagon bought on July 4th, 1892.

Also on display will be a collection of 19th Century toy fire engines donated by the Barnsley family of Newtown, to the Fire Association.

### THE NEWTOWN HALL The Newtown Theater 120 North State Street Newtown, Pa.

There will be a repeated film from 4 to 6 P.M. showing the early methods of wooden barrel making in the 18th Century by the Coopers Craft of Williamsburg.

### ANTIQUe SHOPS

Our area antique shops welcome your visit.

### CRAFT SHOW The Village Smithy 119 North State Street Newtown, Pa.

There will be a display of spinning and weaving, crewel embroidery and quilting.

Woodworking will also be featured.



(BUTTON LADY cont. from page 19)

Tales. For example, there's Hansel and Gretel, Sleeping Beauty, Rumpelstiltskin and so on. She has buttons to capture the imagination of children, children from two to one hundred and two.

The buttons depicting circus life are truly exciting: a clown holding a hoop for a dog to jump through, elephants, tigers and bears. Miss Beans peered through her magnifying glass explaining little details about the animals, then she glanced up and remarked, "I sure would like to have a button showing a goat, an old button, preferably brass."

Now surely in some forgotten box, glass jar or tin container reposes an old brass button with a friendly goat, or perhaps a goat not so friendly. Could you have such a button among your treasures?

While searching for that "old goat" you might just come across a couple more that Miss Beans is interested in obtaining for her Aesop's Fable collection: The Country Mouse and the City Mouse or The Tortoise and The Hare.

In that intriguing room on State Street Miss Beans will tell you about the buttons portraying characters from operas: Brunhilde, Carmen, Yum Yum. She has a few on a display card but in an "Encyclopedia of Buttons" Miss Beans will show you pictures of many, many more.

While Marion Beans shows buttons with bunches of tiny flowers, a horn of plenty or perhaps Little Red Riding Hood; Harold Beans, her brother, might tell you about the old barn in back of their house where horses were kept for the stagecoach from Bristol to Doylestown. He knows many other stories of historical interest about Newtown. Time just flies while you are at the Beans'.

It is true that Marion Beans' is the place to go to purchase the right button for that special dress, or an intriguing oversize one to be made into a medallion with tiny matching buttons for earrings. She's the lady to see if you think that button from the dress in your attic is an antique.

Sometimes at Church bazaars the old adage "seek and ye shall find" pays off. One button might start you on the way to a wonderful hobby. Marion Beans can vouch for that feeling of satisfaction when the missing button is found to complete a set.

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(RUSS cont. from page 25)

A BREAKFAST in honor of the bride-to-be attended by a dozen or more attractive Madison matrons, was given by my daughter's next-door neighbor, Mrs. Bruce Beilfuss, wife of a Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice. . . . Don and Mary Bye, Denny and Nora Littlewood, Jim and Lynn L'Heureux, also entertained at cocktails and dinner on other occasions. . . . Our delightful hosts on our Madison visit, the Eric Rolf Rudes, entertained us on the evening of this Rambler's 78th, at a sumptuous dinner at another famous eating place, "The Jamieson House," at Paynette, Wisconsin, about 50 miles from Madison. While there one of the owners pointed out an antique chair that she purchased from an antique dealer in Doylestown, Bucks County, sometime ago.

\* \* \*

## HISTORIC FACTS

**TROLLEY CENTER**—Looking through some old records, once in the possession of my father, I found a trolley schedule, out of Doylestown, dated 1904. The Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company ran 53 cars daily into and out of Doylestown between 5:13 in the morning and 1 A.M. to Willow Grove and Philadelphia . . . The Bristol, Newtown and Doylestown Railway ran 24 cars into and from the County Seat daily . . . The Philadelphia and Easton Railway Company ran 16 cars each day . . . A line between Doylestown and Lansdale never materialized and the same thing goes for a proposed line between Doylestown and New Hope and one between Doylestown, Dublin and Perkasio.

\* \* \*

A PANORAMA reader writes and asks the age of The Anchor Inn at Wrightstown, Bucks County. It was a famous old hostelry in its day and is still one of Bucks County's finest eating places. It is one of the very oldest continuously-kept public houses in the county, having been built by Joseph Hampton soon after 1724.

\* \* \*

**DID YOU KNOW** that "The Intelligencer" printed in Doylestown, is the 23d oldest newspaper in the United States and the fourth oldest in Pennsylvania. The Intelligencer was founded by Asher Miner in 1804.



# BOOKS IN REVIEW

**THE SEA IN THEIR BLOOD**, by Frederick J. Pratson, Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston, 1972. 144 pp., \$12.50.

I don't know whether Mr. Pratson should be classified as a photographer or writer because he does an excellent job of both. In *The Sea in Their Blood* he has combined his talents to tell the story of the people who inhabit the coast of North America from Maine through New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Quebec. This is an unusual breed of people; for some reason they choose to earn a meager livelihood from inshore fishing, in small boats, in nearby waters. The sea is not literally in their blood, of course, but it lines their faces, often exercises its power to terminate a human life, but yet holds them in a spell that they can't seem to break.

The dramatic black and white photographs and their captions, some quotations from the people and the remainder by the author, tell a story that is, in its essence, beautiful, but has an overtone of futility. These people represent the last frontier in the traditional battle of man versus nature. The battle is almost over but neither side will win. Large scale foreign factory fishing operations have left their mark as has pollution.

Although easy to praise, *The Sea in Their Blood* is difficult to classify. The publisher, on the dust jacket, calls it a photo-documentary but that really doesn't do it justice. The pictures by themselves are beautiful, but the book's major impact lies in a story of some extraordinary people.

H.W.B.

**BETSY ROSS, LAST OF PHILADELPHIA'S FREE QUAKERS**, by Ray Thompson. The Bicentennial Press, Fort Washington, Penna. 112 pp. \$4.75.

Did Betsy Ross really make the first American flag, or, at least, the flag we know as Old Glory with the 13 red and white stripes and the 13 white stars arranged in a circle on a blue field? Ray Thompson doesn't answer the question, but he never claims that he will.

The Betsy Ross legend is one of the most interesting and pervasive in American history. We were all dutifully taught that Betsy Ross, practically under the personal direction of General George Washington, made the first Old Glory in her house at 239 Arch Street in Philadelphia. The only direct

(continued on page 40)



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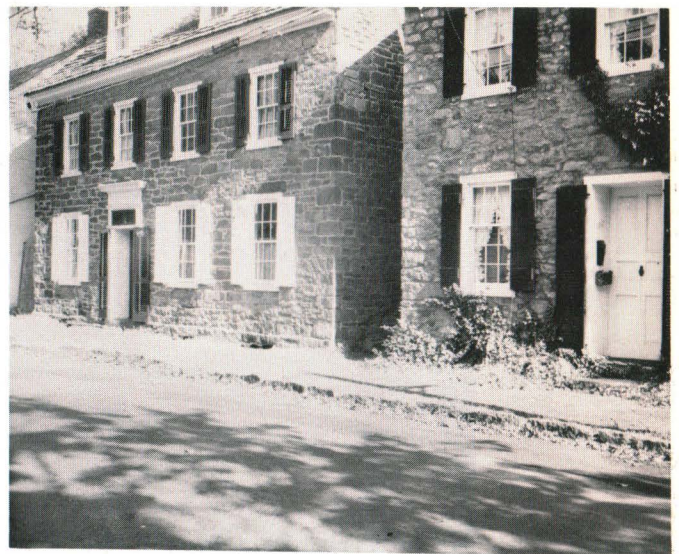
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(PEACEABLE LIVING cont. from page 9)



*Worstall House and Storey House on Court Street. (Storey House built in 1761 by Isaac Hicks, father of Edward Hicks)*

receiving ten dollars a year "for taking care of the meetinghouse, making fires, sweeping, etc.," out of which he paid "from a dollar to two dollars toward the contingent expenses."

In the year 1820 Edward Hicks began the painting of his internationally famous *Peaceable Kingdom*. Not only was he on the way to success as a painter, but also as a preacher and as a family man. Concerning the year 1827 Hicks was able to write in his memoirs: "I have now several written and verbal invitations to hold meetings among the people, and when I feel a freedom to accept such invitations, which is not often the case, the houses are filled to overflowing . . . And my dear children are so far from being scattered . . . that they continue steady members of society, . . . and are a comfort and consolation to me; and even those young men that served an apprenticeship with me are in unity with me; and when I sit down in our meetings for worship, twice a week, I am surrounded by dear Friends and friendly people that I love, and I have good reason to believe they love me. In a word, I am as happy as any man ought to be in this world, and have every blessing that I ought to ask for."

If there is one general idea which best describes the theme of the more than one hundred *Peaceable Kingdoms* which Hicks completed during his lifetime, it is this: that the highest art a man can practice in his community is the art of peaceable living.



(BETWEEN FRIENDS cont. from page 29)

Mrs. Matthew Suydam, Jr., of Doylestown, has been named Chairman of the Doylestown Hospital Relocation Fund Committee, which will be responsible for the fund-raising campaign to raise a portion of the \$9.9 Million cost of the program. The campaign will get underway in December of this year with the public campaign scheduled to begin in May and run through the end of June. During the campaign, funds will be sought from businesses and industries as well as the citizens of the hospital service area. The balance of the financing will be provided by the hospital itself through long-term borrowing.

The new 188 bed general hospital will be built at the new Route 202 and 611 Bypass. Construction is scheduled to begin next summer with completion scheduled for early 1975. The Relocation was necessitated by extremely heavy usage of the present facilities and the unfeasibility of expanding at the present site.

\* \* \*

To all winter enthusiasts, the Bucks County Department of Parks and Recreation is happy to announce, winter weekend lodge rentals will be permitted at Tohickon Valley Park, Point Pleasant, Pennsylvania.

Beginning November 1, the four room lodge, limited to ten people, will be available for weekends until May 18, 1973, at \$47.10 for county residents including a \$10 returnable deposit and a slightly higher rate for non-county residents.

The lodge is completely furnished and includes a larger living room with fireplace, modern kitchen, one bedroom sleeps two plus a large dormitory-type room with bunk beds to sleep six, also bathroom and hot air heater for quick heat. User must furnish own bedding and utensils including dishes.

If you would like to explore the picturesque setting, contact the Bucks County Department of Parks and Recreation on 348-2911, Ext. 305.

\* \* \*

Plumstead Township supervisors announce the appointment of a Historical Registration Commission to locate places and homes of historical value.

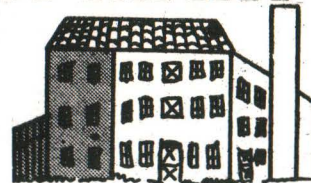
The committee will list their findings with the state and national historical registration commissions to insure their preservations as historic landmarks.

Appointed to the commission were Mrs. Edward Laquer, Gardenville; Mrs. William T. Moore, Carversville; Mrs. Crispin Althouse, Dyerstown; W.E. McKeachie, Carversville, and Herman Silverman, Dyerstown.

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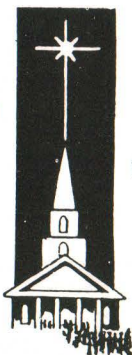
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(BOOK REVIEW cont. from page 35)

accounts of Betsy's work, however, come from her descendents, and there is no verification in any official documents, or the personal papers of any of those who were presumably involved, that she played any part in the act. On the other hand there is no authenticated evidence to show who *did* make Old Glory, so Betsy will have to do until someone better comes along.

Regardless of whether or not she made the first American flag, Betsy Ross, or more properly Betsy Griscom Ross Ashburn Claypool, was an interesting person. Read out of the Society of Friends for marrying out of meeting, she was at various times associated with Christ Church and Gloria Dei on the Anglican side and the Free Quaker movement of those who rejected pacifism in the War of Independence. Widowed twice before she was 30, Betsy was an Early American liberated woman who operated an upholstering and flag making business in Philadelphia for many years.

By now Ray Thompson is practically an old friend of *PANORAMA*. His little books have made an interesting contribution to the literature of the American Revolution. In *Betsy Ross* he continues in his tradition and, as a bonus, includes a general history of the flag with many examples illustrated in color.

H.W.B.

**OLD STONEWORK IN BUCKS COUNTY**, by Willis S. Rivinius. Willis Rivinius, New Hope, Penna. 1972. 69 pp., \$2.75.

Most of us are inclined to take stone houses for granted. They are such an integral part of the Bucks County landscape that we may admire them as we drive by without ever stopping for a very close look.

Walter Rivinius has stopped to look at a lot of them and Michael Smith has taken some beautiful photographs. The combination of text and photographs arouses one's interest in a more detained study of the beautiful 18th and 19th century buildings that dot our countryside. A stone house is not just a stone house. At different times and in different parts of the county buildings were constructed of different types of stone cut and pointed in different styles. The only common factors, the author reminds us, are the skill and the tools of the craftsmen that built them.

If you want to play a new game on a drive through Bucks county on a fall afternoon, buy a copy of *Old Stonework in Bucks County* and see how many of the building types that you can identify.

H.W.B.



(TENTH HOUSE cont. from page 31)

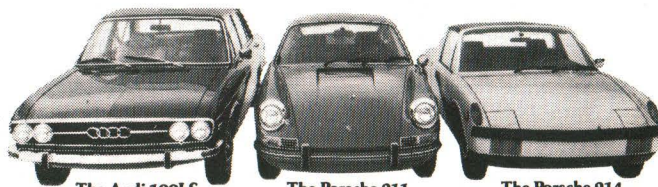
mores and a very dramatic, but largely temporary, effect on America's innkeepers. Three of Newtown's taverns were converts to the temperance cause, and that is how the Temperance House acquired its name. The Bird-In-Hand was an early convert to the "tea total" principle and its owner was liberally praised for providing the community with some moral uplift. One observer later lamented, however, that the teetotalers never supported their principles by patronizing the temperance establishments. Since innkeepers can not live by moral uplift alone, it was not long before the Bird-In-Hand and many other temperance inns renewed their liquor licenses and resumed the more traditional form of their business.

Throughout its history, reflecting the importance of the tavern in community life, the Bird-In-Hand has been almost a community center, serving both government and private causes. During the Revolution the inn served as a quartermaster depot and clothing factory. In fact, in February 1778, Newtown native Richard Hovenden led a band of Loyalists, many of whom were Bucks Countians, in a raid on the temporary factory. For their efforts they received 2,000 yards of woolen cloth vitally needed by the Continental Army, killed five and wounded four of the soldiers defending the inn, and captured a total of 32 officers and men of the militia and Continental Army who comprised the guard force. During World War II, when it was no longer being used as a tavern, the old building served as the headquarters for Newtown's Draft Board, Ration Board, and Civil Defense organization. In the periods from 1800 to 1806 and from 1820 to 1835 the Owner of the Bird-In-Hand held the appointment as Postmaster for Newtown and operated the Post Office from the inn.

It is only natural that great ideas are born in an atmosphere of conviviality. The Newtown Reliance Company for the Detecting and Apprehending of Horse Thieves and other villains was founded at the Bird-In-Hand and held its meetings there for many years. The Newtown Library Company, in its wanderings around the town, settled at the inn for a while in 1818. The innkeeper, Asa Cary, was appointed librarian at the handsome stipend of \$1.00 per year and free reading privileges. The Macedonian Baptist Church is reported to have been founded at the Bird-In-Hand.

Yes, the character of a town does change. Newtown's four remaining old taverns remind us of its somewhat more raucous past. All have played a vital part in the history of the community, but none have had such a varied history as The Old Frame Tavern.

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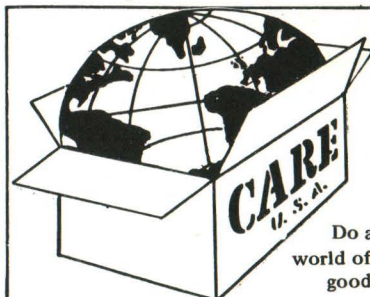
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(CALENDAR cont. from page 3)

- 17 NEWTOWN — Bucks County Community College Cultural Affairs Committee presents the New Liberation Jazz Unit. Part of a series. Tickets for the season or for individual events available from the College. Begins at 8 p.m.
- 18 NEWTOWN — Bucks County Community College Cultural Affairs Committee presents a Saturday night Film Series — "Pather Panchali", 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. in the Auditorium of the Library. BCCC and Subscription Ticket Holders have priority in seating — no charge.
- 26 NEWTOWN — Delaware Valley Philharmonic Orchestra will present a Pops Concert at Council Rock High School, Swamp Road, 3 p.m. Opening concert for the 1972-73 Season. Joseph Primavera is Conductor.
- 1 - 15 FALLSINGTON — Burges-Lippincott House, Stage Coach Tavern, Williamson House — 18th Century Architecture. Open to public Wed., thru Sun. 1 to 5 p.m. Admission. Children under 12 free if accompanied by an adult. (CLOSED NOV. 15th TO MARCH 15th, 1973.)
- 1 - 30 WASHINGTON CROSSING — Taylor House, built in 1812 by Mahlon K. Taylor, now serves as headquarters for the Washington Crossing Park Commission. Open to the public weekdays 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- 1 - 30 MORRISVILLE — Pennsbury Manor, the recreated Country Estate of William Penn. Original Manor House built in 1683. Open daily 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sunday — Noon to 5 p.m. Admission 50¢.
- 1 - 30 BRISTOL — The Margaret R. Grundy Memorial Museum, 610 Radcliffe Street. Victorian Decor. Hours: Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday 1 to 3 p.m. Other times by appointment.
- 1 - 30 NEW HOPE — Parry Mansion, South Main & Ferry Streets, 18th Century Architecture. Open Wed. to Saturday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday 1 to 4 p.m. Admission \$1.00. Property of the New Hope Historical Society.
- 1 - 30 PINEVILLE — Wilmar Lapidary Art Museum. The Country's largest private collection of hand-carved semi-precious stones. Open to the public Tuesday thru Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sunday 1 to 5 p.m. Admission 50¢.
- 1 - 30 DOYLESTOWN — Mercer Museum, Pine and Ashland Streets. Hours: Sunday 1 to 5 p.m., Tuesday thru Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Closed Monday. Admission — Adults \$1.00, Children under 12 — 50¢. Special rates for families and groups. Groups by appointment.
- 1 - 30 DOYLESTOWN — Moravian Pottery and Tile Works, Swamp Road (Rt. 313) north of Court Street, Sunday Noon to 5 p.m., Wed. thru Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission \$1.00 for adults, Children 25¢. Group rates.
- 1 - 30 NEW HOPE — Mule-drawn Barge Rides, After Labor Day, Wednesday, Sat. and Sunday 1, 3, 4:30 and 6 p.m. "See Canal Life as it was 125 years ago."



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